

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 086817
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 PA-02 ISO-00 H-02
SSM-05 SIG-03 SS-15 SP-02 /076 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:WBHARRIS:DP
APPROVED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND
PA/PRESS - MR. CARTER
H - MR. FLATEN
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
NEA/IAI MR. SMITH
NEA/ARN - MR. DRAPER
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM
NEA/EGY - MR. NEWBERRY

-----112179 050007Z /66

O 042312Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USCINCEUR
JCS WASHDC 0044
DOD WASHDC
CIA WASHDC 0035
USIA
NSC WASHDC 0027

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD; TEL AVIV FOR PAO, DELIVER BY 9 A.M.

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - APRIL 4, 1978

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR APRIL 4. FYI ONLY,
OFFICER PRESENT TODAY WAS HODDING CARTER.

Q. ON THE AIRPLANE PACKAGE DEAL, COULD YOU TELL US YOUR
INTENTIONS? ARE YOU GOING TO SUBMIT THE LETTER OF OFFER
TO CONGRESS?

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A. WE SAID WE WERE GOING TO DO IT AFTER THE BREAK. I
DON'T HAVE A SPECIFIC DATE FOR YOU.

Q. IT HAS NOT BEEN SUBMITTED YET.

A. NO. THEY ARE JUST BACK. WHAT I MEAN IS, I HAVE
NOTHING ON IT.

Q. THERE WAS ALSO A REPORT RECENTLY THAT THERE MIGHT BE A
CHANGE IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE PACKAGE, THAT THE NUMBER
OF AIRPLANES TO ISRAEL WOULD BE INCREASED AND THOSE TO
SAUDI ARABIA MIGHT BE REDUCED. IS THERE CONSIDERATION
GIVEN TO SUCH A THING?

A. NO. I DO NOT KNOW OF ANY SUCH CONSIDERATION.

Q. AND DO YOU STILL STAND BY IT BEING A PACKAGE, AS SUCH,
THAT IT CANNOT BE DISMANTLED.

A. YES. THAT IS OUR POSITION.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY INDEPENDENT INFORMATION OF THE IRAQUIS

SETTING UP A ROCKET LAUNCHER IN SOUTH LEBANON, A ROCKET
BASE?

A. NO. I ABSOLUTELY HAVE NOTHING ON THAT. I AM NOT
EVEN AWARE OF IT, OF THE REPORT.

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TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, XF
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